

A
L E T T E R

FROM A

COMMONER in Town,

TO A

NOBLE LORD in the Country.



L O N D O N :

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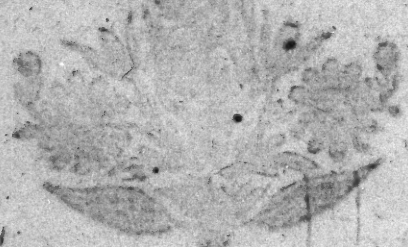
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LETTER

COMMONS

TO A

NOBLE I.O. COUNCIL



LONDON

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COMMONER in Town,

TO A

NOBLE LORD in the Country.

My LORD,

AS I have a particular Pleasure in obeying your Lordship's Commands, I shall be happy if I can afford you the least Satisfaction, by attempting to answer those Queries, with which your Letter of the 10th has honoured me.

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THE

THE antient Nobility of your Family; the princely Fortune, which has, unimpaired, been transmitted to you, by your illustrious Ancestors, and which you, by uniting Oeconomy with Magnificence, seem resolved to transmit, in the same Manner, to your Son; these make you look, with too great Indifference, upon that Connection with the Court, which your Birth, your Fortune, and your distinguished Abilities entitle you to: And when I have had the Honour to converse with you upon this Subject, and urged the additional Power you might hereby have of doing Good, your darling Object! I have been coldly answer'd, that, perhaps, you might obtain a Pair of Colours, for a Dependent, as the Price of your own Independency; perhaps be thought honoured by carrying the Cap, or the Sword; perhaps be allowed to bring in an adulatory Address, setting forth the unparalleled Merit of his G——e, and our own great Happiness under his wise Administration; or, as the greatest of all Favours, invited to a wretched Dinner, given grudgingly, though even that, you hear, is, by the present great Oeconomist in Power, forgot or omitted; and you have always concluded these Conversations with the stoical Rant of *justum and tenacem, and non vultus instantis tyranni*, in which, I could not but observe a little Mixture of the *Cynic*.

You will pardon me, my Lord, for this Observation; it will enable me to account for the Readiness with which you listen to every idle Report, which Ignorance, Disappointment, or Misapprehension,

Misapprehension, are apt to throw out against those in Power. But, before I finish this Letter, I hope to convince you, that all your Queries have their Foundation in these; and that this Kingdom never was blessed with a Chief *Magistrate*, so entirely devoted to its Service, as the present illustrious Descendant of the great Lord R—l.

BUT, that I may discharge the Task you have given me, in the fullest and clearest Manner, give me Leave, in the first Place, to transcribe the Queries, which you are pleased to desire my Answer to; and having done this, you shall have my Answer to each, in the Order, in which you have proposed them.

FIRST, you ask, can I forget his enormous Behaviour to the P——t, at the Beginning of his G——t, in refusing an Answer, to an Address of the C——s; and pretending to hesitate, whether an Address of theirs to the K—g should be transmitted?

II. WHETHER the extraordinary Enquiry into the Conduct of the Board of Revenue, for twenty Years past, which was seconded by his S—e—t—y, and openly encouraged by his G—e, was not rather a Consequence of his private Resentment against particular Persons, than of his Wish to do any public Service, or of the smallest Suspicion, that there had been any Mal-administration at that Board?

III.

III. Is it not notorious, that his G—e solicited, and procured, the passing of the Live Cattle Act in *Great Britain*; though every Person in the least acquainted with the State of this Kingdom, and the Trade and Manufactures thereof, must be convinced, that such an Act is highly detrimental to it?

IV. DID not his G—e, at the opening of this S—n, from the T—e declare to both H—s of P——t, that he had nothing to ask, but the ordinary Supplies?

V: HATH not his S——y, notwithstanding, asked, and got from our House a Loan of 150,000*l*. Do you not expect another Application for a like, or a greater Sum; and at an Interest of 5 *per cent.* upon both?

VI. WAS not the intended Invasion from *France* foreseen and expected, before his G——e arrived in this Kingdom? Was one step taken by him to prevent its taking effect? Or was the Danger more imminent, when Application was made for the first Loan?

VII. WHAT is the Reason of levying such an additional military Force in this Kingdom? And in those Levies, have the Sons and younger Brothers of the considerable Families of this Kingdom been considered in the Promotions? And are the Nobility and Gentry, who

who make Application for such Promotions, received with Politeness ?

VIII. WHAT was the Intention of the Prorogation Bill moved for by the S——y, which has made such a Noise ? I do not love Mobs ; but could less be expected upon such an Occasion ?

IX. WHAT has occasioned that Scarcity of Money, which is so sensibly felt, by Persons of all Ranks and Fortunes in the Country ? Is it not owing to the stopping Payment of three eminent Personages, most preposterously calling themselves Bankers, who are now Bankrupts ? How is that extraordinary Step of three such great Officers and Ministers, to the great Impoverishment of the Nation, and Disappointment of the Government in this Time of Danger, relished by the Publick ? Is there to be any parliamentary Enquiry into their Conduct ? And if not, by whom is it prevented or stifled ?

X. WOULD a publick Loan have been necessary, had it not been for this Bankruptcy ? Or if it had, would not 200,000 l. circulating through the Nation, be poured into the Treasury upon this Occasion ?

XI. HAS the C——le, which you are so fond of attending, the Dignity, the Hospitality, and the Decency of a Palace ? On the contrary, is it not become a Desert ; whilst the lordly Inhabitant puts himself upon a Level with the meanest,

meanest, by taking, nay, courting Entertainments from them? Are those Drawing-Rooms and Balls, which uninterrupted Prescription had appropriated to the Entertainment of the Ladies, regularly and decently kept up? On the contrary, are not all Arts made use of, to deprive the Ladies of these; and private Balls and Assemblies encouraged and desired, on the Nights when these ought to be kept?

XII. WAS Gaming ever at so great a Height? Does his G——e either win or lose with Decency?

THESE, my Lord, are the Queries you have been pleased to propose to me, and which I have set down in your own Words; for however strong the Insinuations are which they carry with them, your Lordship's known Candour gives me full Assurance, that, when you consider my Answers, you will entertain as favourable an Opinion of his G——e, as I now do; and be induced to exhibit yourself, where your Duty to your Country calls for your Attendance.

WITHOUT further Preamble therefore, I shall now set about giving my Answers to your Queries, in the Order in which you have proposed them.

AND, first, you ask, can I forget his G——e's enormous Behaviour to the P——t, at the Beginning of his G——t, in refusing an Answer

to an Address of the C——s, and pretending to hesitate, whether an Address of theirs to the K—g should be transmitted.

INDEED; my Lord, as you and I are well acquainted with the Government of this Kingdom; as we are not Strangers to the Power delegated to our C—f G——r; as we know, that he is our Fellow Subject, and his Majesty's SERVANT, and not our *Master*: That he is the Channel through which the Wants and the Wishes of the loyal People of *Ireland* are to be conveyed to our most gracious Sovereign: That in truth, in all material Circumstances, he is no better than a Machine, rather to be acted upon, than capable of giving Motion to any Thing, except by Direction from the Minister in *England*, or by the Advice of the Privy Council here, without whose Concurrence, he cannot give Life to a Bill in P——t, or even issue a Proclamation: It was, I own, Matter of Amazement, that his G—e, should so entirely forget himself and his Duty, as to refuse to answer an Address from the C——s, or to attempt to make at one Stroke, Them so little, or Himself so great as to take it into his Head, that He was a Judge what Addresses of theirs were, or were not proper to be laid before the K—g. And what must add to the Wonder is, that though his S——y's Ignorance should render him incapable of advising upon such a Point; that his G—e should not have one Friend to lay before him the Impropriety and the Danger of so enormous a Proceeding; that he should not have Recourse to the C——l; or to any of the great Offices of the C—n,

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upon

upon a Point of such Emergency, where the Peace of the Kingdom, and, of Consequence, his own Head, were at Stake. And yet the Fact is so, and can neither be denied nor excused. And it is as true that when the Thing was known, on the other Side of the Water, he received a severe Reprimand, with positive Orders, directly to transmit the Address, and to quiet the Minds of the People; which he was forced to comply with, though with a very bad Grace, and with all the Symptoms of an exulcerated Mind.

THIS naturally brings me to your second Query, *viz.* that relating to the Attack upon the Board of Revenue, which immediately followed it, and which you seem to ascribe, as the Consequence of that first Step; and indeed not without some Colour of Reason.

FOR it is well known, that the first Commissioner of that Board, has the Honour to preside in the Chair of the House of C——s, where his Inclinations, as well as his Duty, oblige him to support the Privileges of the C——s; and which, upon the late Occasion, he did, with a Spirit becoming the President of that august Assembly; and which must ever be remembered to his Honour. And this Enquiry being set on Foot, immediately after the Refusal to transmit the Address, induced many others, as well as your Lordship, to impute it to private Pique.

I HAVE not entered into a minute Detail of the several Circumstances, which attended this very extraordinary Affair, because you were in
Town

Town when they happened, were acquainted with them, and with the Flame which they occasioned: And I shall not easily forget, the indignant Mirth, which his G——'s impotent Rage, and ill-timed Pride, (these were your Expressions) occasioned to your Lordship; nor the high Encomiums, which you bestowed upon the Sp——r, for the Spirit which he exerted; nor the Commendations which you gave, to the moderate Measures, taken by the H——e, when they declined inserting, his G——e's most unprecedented Answer, in their Journals, as that must have put a Stop to all further Inter-course between his G——e and the H——e, and consequently, have put an End to his G——nt; but chose the milder Method of putting a Stop to all Business, and particularly to the Money Bill, then before them; to allow his G——e Time to think, and to come to a better Mind, and to a just Sense, of the Dignity of the C——ns of *Ireland*, and of the great Impropriety of his own Behaviour.

BUT when all this is said, let not Prejudice carry us away beyond the Bounds of Justice; for where an Action is capable of a favourable Construction, Charity should incline us, to put that Construction upon it. Let us therefore, attend to the Gloss, which his Friends, both here and in *England*, put upon this Attack upon the Board of Revenue.

THEY allow it to have been made, but they say, that when it was set on Foot by his G——e,

he was an entire Stranger in this Kingdom ; ignorant, as well with regard to Persons as Things ; and subject to be misled by those, in whom he confided ; and therefore, his Friends impute his Zeal in this Matter to an earnest, and a disinterested Desire to serve this poor Country, by removing the Abuses, which, he supposed, it laboured under ; and by displacing those Servants, by whom they were introduced or propagated. And they think themselves warranted in this, because it is certain, that the filling up Vacancies at that Board, is not in the L--d L-----t's Department ; and it is as certain, that when his G---e found himself mistaken, and that the publick Voice and Sense of the Nation had acquitted the supposed Delinquents, he, like a Man of Honour, was the first to confess it, and to make those Gentlemen, all the Reparation in his Power, by promoting a Resolution in their Favour, in the H---e of C-----ns, viz. that they had discharged their Duty, with that Honour and Integrity, which became their Characters ; and it is well known, that many Gentlemen of that Board, and particularly the first Commissioner of it, are, at this very time, honoured with his G---'s particular Notice and Esteem.

I PROCEED now, to your third Question, viz. that relating to the live Cattle Bill.

AND here I cannot avoid lamenting the hard Fate, to which great Men are exposed ; they are laid under the almost unavoidable Necessity, of disobliging ten for one, whom they have it in their Power to oblige ; for so many Competitors there

there are for every Employment in the G——r's Disposal ; and each of these, weighing his own Merit, in the unequal Ballance of Self love,resents his Disappointment, and shoots out his Arrows, even bitter Words.

FROM hence have proceeded the many false Reports, which have reached your Lordship's Ears ; that his G——'s *English* Estate had suffered greatly, by the Mortality of the horned Cattle, and that this Loss was to be repaired by new Levies from *Ireland*. Hence the Report, that his G—— misrepresnted the People of this Kingdom, when he affirmed, in the H——e of L——s of *England*, that he had consulted the Nobility and Gentry of *Ireland*, and found, from their united Opinion, that such a Law, would greatly redound to their Advantage. Hence the Report, of the Argument said to be made Use of by his G——e, in Support of the Bill, viz. that from his particular Knowledge of *Ireland*, it could not well subsist without such a Law ; because the Nature of the Soil, and Country, is such, as to make it fit for nothing, except breeding and feeding young Cattle ; and unless we are allowed to export them, our Country must lie useless.

Now, my Lord, allow me to ask, can such Reports as these gain Credit with any but the lowest of the People ? Can you suppose, that a Person of his G——'s great Prudence, profound Sagacity, and inviolable Attachment to Truth, would affirm, that he had consulted the Nobility and Gentry of this Kingdom, and that they
were

were unanimously of Opinion, that the Law before us, would be highly useful, when, by the unanimous Resolution of the C-----s, it has been declared highly detrimental? Can your Lordship possibly suppose his G-----e to be so very weak, or so very vain, as to affirm, that from his short Residence in the C-----e of *Dublin*, amidst the Hurry of Business, attending his G-----t, he had acquired so complete a Knowledge of this Country, as to enable him to say, with the least Degree of Probability, that it is only fit to breed, and to feed young Cattle?

LAYING aside, therefore, these foolish and groundless Reports, let us acknowledge that though his G-----e, and his S-----y, did solicit and promote the passing of this Law; however mistaken they might be, their Designs and Intentions were good; and that both the one and the other really thought, the Law would be of Service to us. But now, that they are convinced of the contrary, I make no Doubt, but their utmost Endeavours will be used, to have the Law repealed.

BUT you ask, did not his G-----e, at the opening of the S-----n, declare from the T-----e, that he had nothing to ask, but the ordinary Supplies, &c?

As this Question is nearly connected with the two following, I shall take the Liberty to answer them together.

AND

AND, first, I do acknowledge, that the Declaration, which you mention, is in his G---'s Speech from the T----e; his S-----y has likewise applied for, and obtained a Loan of 150000*l*. and we expect another Application.

BUT, my Lord, when this Speech was made, and probably it was written, before he left *England*, his G——e was an utter Stranger to the exhausted Condition of our Tr——ry: For many Years before, it is well known, that we had been quarrelling among ourselves, about the Redundancy there; his G—e, hoping that we were in the same happy Affluence, took it for granted, that the ordinary Supplies, added to the supposed Redundancy, would effectually secure us from the Attempts of the *French*. But when he found that the Officers of the T——ry had most shamefully abused their Trust; when, instead of a Sufficiency to repel the Attempts of the Enemy, there was not enough to discharge the civil and the military Establishment; then his G—e was obliged to have Recourse to the known Parliamentary Method of a Loan and a Vote of Credit. And I have the Pleasure to acquaint you, that our House have so high an Opinion of his G——'s Oeconomy, manifested upon every Occasion in his Domestick Affairs, that this Vote of Credit was granted, as soon as asked, and without Opposition; and, I dare venture to affirm, that whenever he shall honour us with a second Application, it will meet with as little.

It

It is not my Business to defend the Officers of the Tr——ry, nor those Right Honourable Gentlemen, who are now unhappily Bankrupts.

BUT allow me to say, that the precarious State of Credit ; the Danger of a publick Enquiry into Abuses ; the little Success of the Enquiry formerly set on Foot, against the Board of Revenue ; and, above all, the very great Influence, which these Bankers are known to have, in the House of C——s, form an unanswerable Excuse for the Lenity, with which his G——e treats them at this Time.

BUT this by the by.

BUT you ask, was not the intended Invasion from *France*, foreseen and expected before his G——'s Arrival in this Kingdom, and was any one Step taken to prevent its taking Effect ?

I answer.

THE intended Invasion was foreseen and expected, as early as the Month of *May*. I was in *London* at the Time, and can, from my own Knowledge, affirm, that no Man in that Kingdom was more solicitous to prevent its taking Effect than his G——e. He did me, among other Gentlemen of *Ireland*, the Honour to communicate his Intelligence to us ; and asked our Advice, what was proper to be done upon
so

so critical a Conjunction. We advised raising some new Regiments; but this was declined, as not to be done in Time, and as he had not a Loan to defray the Expence. Nothing was indeed concluded at that Meeting; but we were desired to meet again, at which Meeting he told us, that he heard the Militia of the North of *Ireland* was a very respectable Body; that he would put himself at their Head; and he would then see, whether the *French* would dare to insult his G——t. In my Life, I never heard a General express himself with greater Courage, and Magnificence. But his Courage was never doubted, except when he was attacked, by a Mob, at a Horse-race. It is well known, that he called for his great Boots, in order to head the Army against the Mob, which lately infested our Streets; and, with Difficulty, was prevailed upon, not to expose his sacred Person upon that Occasion.

BUT you ask, what Step he took to prevent the Invasion?

WHY, he went to *W——n*, to consider, in his Retirement, what was proper to be done; staid a Fortnight, returned, and wrote circular Letters to the Gentlemen of *Ireland*, to give their Assistance in recruiting *Strode's* and another Regiment, which were sent to this Kingdom for that Purpose. And what more could be done at that Time?

It is true, we were not then prepared to receive a Visit from the *French*; but no sooner did we hear of *Hawke's* putting it out of their Power to invade us, than we prepared for their Reception. Three new Regiments of Foot, besides Horse, gallantly officered, and well disciplined, and three more to be raised, will surely defend us from all Apprehensions of an Invasion, at least till the flat-bottomed Boats can be again got together.

BUT you ask, hath not Application been made, &c?

AND here, my Lord, you seem to exult, and to think it impossible for me to give a satisfactory Answer to your Question, at least such an one, as will serve to exculpate our G——r.

BUT in this, as in every other Instance, his G——e has acted like HIMSELF: From my own Knowledge, I can assure you, that an Exciseman, of no Fortune, has been made no less than a Captain in one of these Regiments; and here you will allow, that nothing has been given for the Commission; for the poor Man had nothing to give; and his miserable Employment in the Revenue is not worth mentioning. Nay, so great is his G——'s Regard to the Interest of this Country, that a Captain of some Reputation, was refused a Majority, for no other Reason, but because he had the Misfortune to be born in *England*.

England. Lord *N-wb—e* is, I confess, an Exception to this Rule ; his Lordship, though a Stranger, was promoted ; but who that considers his Birth, his Expectations, his Connexions at the C—e, and, above all, the Power of his very fair Sollicitress, will grudge him Preferment?

I WILL acknowledge, that the Applications of many Noblemen and Gentlemen, in Behalf of their Sons and Brothers, have not been complied with : But was it possible to comply with them all ? Had a new Army been raised, instead of the very inconsiderable Addition of seven Regiments, to our former Establishment of 15,000 Men, it would not have been sufficient for this Purpose : But I can, from my own Knowledge, affirm, that double the Number of Regiments were intended to be raised, in order to encrease the Opportunity of conferring Obligations, and to silence the Complaints of the discontented ; but this Scheme was unhappily disconcerted, by the Declamations of some popular Orators in our House, who not only objected to the raising of Regiments, during the Sitting of P——t, without the Approbation of the two Houses ; but also had the Insolence to affirm, that this Kingdom, in its present exhausted Condition, would not be able to provide for the Payment of such a Number of Troops : This, however popular, you will easily believe, was not grateful to the C——t, and would have distressed it, had it not been for an Accident, which will probably silence such Declaimers for the future : For happily, in the Course of this Debate, some free Expressions were thrown out
C 2 against

against the Gentlemen of the Army; and Care was taken, to spirit up a young Nobleman of high Rank, and lately promoted in the new Levies, to call the Orator to an Account for those free Expressions, as if levelled at him, and in the very H——e of C——s; and this, though the highest Infringement of the Freedom of Debate, and the Privileges of the H——e, will probably make Gentlemen more guarded in their Expressions for the Time to come. However, I fear, it will, at present, be attended with this very bad Consequence, that no more Regiments will be raised; and of Course put it out of his G——'s Power to gratify the Number of Suitors. But the very Objection which you have made, is a strong Argument in his G——'s Favour, viz. that no Person has been promoted, who had not somewhat to give up in his G——'s Disposal; for was it not the Intention of this, that he might have the more extensive Power to oblige?

I HAVE indeed heard, that Money has been given for some of these Commissions; nay, that 290*l.* was paid for the oldest Ensigncy in one of these Regiments. But, supposing the Report true, the Commission was well worth the Money paid; and I dare say, that not one Penny of it went into his G——'s Pocket. But what may have contributed to this and many other Reports, to his G——'s Disadvantage, is the very ungracious Method which his G——e has, both in granting and refusing Favours. I wish I could excuse him in this Particular; but I am forced to confess that the rude Bluntness of the *English-*
man,

man, has not been softened, by his Conversation with the Court, and with Courtiers. He may think, that the Honesty and Uprightness of his Intentions, will apologize for the Want of Softness and Delicacy ; or he may think, that his great Fortune, and the high Blood of the great Lord *R——*, which circulates through his Veins, may exempt him from those Compliances, which Persons of an inferior Rank may think themselves obliged to submit to. And above all, the very great Personage, which he has the Honour to represent, may incline him to think, that certain *Hauteurs*, may become his personated Character, in this Kingdom, which he would acknowledge unbecoming on the other Side of the Water. And though I am persuaded, that these Apologies will have but little Weight with your Lordship, who are known to be as humble, as you are great ; yet your Friend *Horace* will tell you,

Intererit multum, Divusne loquatur an Irus.

I HAVE heard your Lordship and many others say, that they never returned displeased from Lord *Chesterfield*, not even when their Requests were refused ; the Reverse of this, is, I own, the Case at present ; very few are pleased, even when their Requests are granted. But allow me to observe, that this happy Complacency, is frequently the Effect of Constitution ; and if this will not remove your Objection, let me add,
Non ego paucis offendar Maculis.

BUT

BUT you ask, what was the Intention of the S——y's Bill, for calling the P——t during Prorogations ?

AND here, though I do not profess myself an Admirer of the S——y ; nay, though I observe many Things faulty in his Conduct ; yet I think, he may, very fairly be acquitted of the Charge, which, by Insinuation, you here bring against him.

LET me, therefore, observe to you, that though no People on the Globe, are more tenacious of their Rights, nor more jealous of their Liberties, than those of our Mother Country ; yet the Law you here mention, has passed the *British* Legislature, almost without Opposition ; from whence we may reasonably conclude, that it did not appear with an evil Aspect to them. And our S——y might well imagine, that what was thought beneficial by them, would not be disadvantageous to us.

AND as our S——y, though he has now a large Property by his Employments in this Kingdom, is an absolute Stranger to us, and to our Constitution where it differs from that of our Mother Country ; he might not foresee the Inconveniencies, nay, the manifest Destruction which might be brought upon this Country by such a Law.

WE have Intervals of at least eight Months between our S——s of P——t, and are never called together, but when it is necessary for us to provide Funds for paying our civil and our military Establishments; and was it not to answer this End, it is to be feared, that we should very seldom, if ever, be allowed to meet.

KNOWING, as the S———y does, the honest Heart of his Master, and our present most gracious G——r, he could never imagine, that any Advantage would be taken of us by his G——e. But should we at any Time hereafter, in Punishment for our Sins, have a G——r of a different Character set over us; what might not such a G——r do, armed with the Powers of this Law? Might he not give a short Notice for the Meeting of a P——t, which, being attended only by Placemen and Pensioners, living in this Town, might pass a Law continuing the Funds for ever, or for a long Term of Years, and so render the Meeting of P——t absolutely useless? And therefore, though I allow, that the S———y's Bill might have been attended with Consequences fatal to this Kingdom; yet I must do him the Justice to suppose, that he either did not foresee, or did not consider these Consequences. But as soon as they were laid before him, for doing which, I claim some little Merit to myself, he most readily withdrew his Motion, and laid aside all Thoughts of pushing it further.

I INTENDED

I INTENDED here to put an End to your, and my own Trouble, upon this Head ; but I find myself under a Necessity of enlarging a little further, by a Paper which came to my Hands, while I was writing the above.

It is entitled, *Liberty and Common Sense to the People of Ireland*, said to have been printed in *Dublin*, and reprinted in *London*.

BUT as you know, that I am a little curious in collecting all the Papers printed here, and as I never heard of this, before the *Chronicle* of the 17th, brought us an Extract from it ; I am inclinable to believe, that the Manuscript was sent from hence to *London*, and is probably the Performance of the Person accused by your Lordship, as an Apology for his Conduct. I am the more inclined to attribute the Merit of this Performance, if any it has, to this Gentleman, because it betrays an Ignorance of us, and of our Affairs, which can admit of no Excuse, unless his being a Stranger will pass as such.

HE avers, with perfect Assurance, very perfect Assurance indeed, that an Union between *England* and *Ireland* was never intended, by any Person of Weight or Wisdom in either Kingdom.

THIS .

THIS I mention, as an Instance of the Writer's gross Ignorance ; for we all know, that not very long before the Arrival of this Gentleman in this Kingdom, a Nobleman, as remarkable for his Wisdom and Abilities, as for his Love of his Country, and for his Weight in both Kingdoms, and he is eminently remarkable for them all, did, in a very long Speech, mention it, not only in your House, but in the P———t of *England* ; and I am persuaded, that he would not have mentioned it, had he not thought it highly beneficial, as well to this, as to our Mother Country.

BUT besides this, the Reason which the Writer of the Paper now before me gives, against such Union taking Effect, is of so extraordinary a Nature, is so injurious to the whole representative Body of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, that I am perswaded, that spirited Nation will not easily forgive the Writer; and it is, at the same Time, such an Aspersi^on upon the Nobility and Gentry of this Kingdom, that I can never suppose it to be written by one of this Country.

HIS Words are,

‘ *England* has already experienced the Consequences of such an Union. What hath been, might be again ; and the additional Weight of an *Irish* P——t, thrown into the ministerial

‘ ministerial Scale, would be such, as all the
 ‘ Patriotism in *Britain* would never be able to
 ‘ ballance.’

PARDON me, my Lord, for this Quotation ;
 my Indignation rises, and therefore I forbear.

THE Writer proceeds to give an Answer to the
 Question proposed by your Lordship, not indeed
 so favourable, as what I have already offered in
 his Behalf. Such however as his Reasons are, I
 will leave it to your Lordship to judge of them ;
 and also to consider, whether Fear of the Mob
 hath not induced him to add Circumstances to his
 Relation, which we were not before let into ;
 particularly, whether so august, and so impartial
 a Body as the P——t of *Great Britain*, could
 think of binding us by a Law, purely relative to
 ourselves, without our Consent being even asked.
Credat Judæus Apella, non ego.

You tell me, you do not love Mobs ; I know
 that the Goodness of your Lordship's Heart
 will not allow you to love, or to encourage, what
 must subvert every good Order of Government,
 nay, Government itself ; but you ask, what
 less could be expected upon such an Occasion ?
 It would, indeed, be difficult to give an Answer
 to your Question, if we were under a Necessity
 of passing every Bill brought into the H—se by
 a S——y : But when we are not only vested
 with a Power of rejecting, but of punishing the
 Member,

Member, who shall bring in Heads of a Bill derogatory of the Honour, the Dignity, or the Existence of P——ts ; I say, while we are vested with such Powers, I should be sorry to have Recourse to a Mob for Redress.

LET us, therefore, proceed to your next Questions, relating to the Scarcity of Money, and the late Bankruptcies. I wish I could deny the former, or apologize for the latter.

THE Treasury, nay, the Nation, is indeed exhausted ; and how the Damage is to be repaired, I know not. But that no Part of it is to be attributed to his G——e is manifest ; he did every Thing in his Power to support sinking Credit ; and the unhappy Objects of the present national Indignation, however faulty in their original Intentions, are now become Objects of Pity, as their private Fortunes must become answerable for the Injury which they have done the Publick, and which will probably terminate in the Ruin of them and their Families. And if his G——ce treats them with uncommon Lenity, this ought not to be considered as patronizing their Crime, but ascribed to the Humanity and Gentleness of his Disposition, and to the Reasons alledged in my Answer to a former Question.

I COME now to your two last Questions, which are so very personal, and which carry with them such strong Insinuations against his G——ce, that

I could wish to be excused from giving Answers to them ; and allow me to assure your Lordship, that my writing upon this Subject is a strong Instance of the Weight which your Commands have with me.

ALLOW me therefore to say, that such is the Decency, the Dignity, and the Grace attending my Lady D——s, that wherever she presides, nothing is wanting to answer the utmost Expectations of the Company ; to which let me add, that the Beauty, the Affability, and the amiable Behaviour of Lady C——ne, is no small Addition to the Elegancy of the Balls and Drawing Rooms, and which, in Reality, were never better attended than they are at present. And if these are not so frequent, as under some former Administrations, let me impute the Failure to the true Cause ; his G——ce is not fond of these Entertainments ; he thinks the Time mispent, and the Money thrown away, that is laid out in this Manner ; for I will not dissemble ; his G——ce is rather a greater Oeconomist than you and I could wish, in a Person of his high Station, and great Rank. I will not therefore deny that these Entertainments are less frequent than they ought to be ; and that, in their Stead, private Parties, and Invitations, are accepted of, to the no small Disappointment and Dissatisfaction of the Town, Neither can it be said, that Invitations to dine at the C——le are as frequent as you and I remember them, under former G——ts ; on the contrary, very few of either H——e of P——t have been
been

been admitted to that Honour. But, as his G——e has no Points to carry that do not tend to our Advantage, he cannot bear to have it thought, that any, even the lowest Degree of Corruption, is necessary for this Purpose.

BUT, in other Respects, I am sure it will be allowed, that no L——d L——t was ever a greater Master of the Art, of laying aside his personated Majesty; of accepting of Dinners, from whoever is pleased to ask him; and of being the very Life and Soul of such Entertainments; no body more alive, none more ready, as well to give as to receive Jokes; in short, whenever he appears, the true attic Salt gives the highest *Gout* to the Entertainment.

AND now that I am upon his G——'s personal Character, allow me to observe, that as he has no low Designs upon other People; so no Man was ever more upon his Guard against the Designs of other People upon himself, which you will allow to be a very high Point of Prudence.

I HAVE more than once observed, the very Apprehension that a Favour was to be asked, tho' no such Thing was intended, bring a Frown upon his Brow, which was not easily removed. And of all the Men whom I ever saw, who had spent his Life at Court and among Courtiers, he is the greatest Master of the Art of saying no; so great, that I am persuaded, it comes out,
if

if not naturally, at least mechanically, when he intends the contrary.

LASTLY, you ask me, was Gaming ever at so great an Height, &c ?

You and I, my Lord, have long lamented this growing Evil, before his G—e came among us ; and therefore we cannot, with Justice, impute it to him. That he loves Play is certain ; and is in Parties, for this Purpose, every Night, not excepting *Sundays* ; which is no further blameable, than as it is contrary to the Laws of the Land, and may give Offence to weak and superstitious People ; but it cannot be said, that he plays for any Sum that may impair his Fortune ; and if he does not play with that Decency which one could wish ; if he exults too much when Fortune smiles, and is dejected when she frowns ; this must be imputed to Constitution, and not to Covetousness. You and I have observed many Instances of this sort ; many and many a time have we laughed at honest *Jack* —, whose Generosity was never questioned ; and yet he has been tempted to wrangle, to curse, and to be rude for the Loss of Half a Crown : This is exactly his G—'s Case, and may easily be accounted for, from that Ambition to excel which attends all great Minds ; and which inclines them to think, that every little Loss is attended with a Superiority in their Antagonist, which they cannot bring themselves to submit to and acknowledge.

AND

AND thus, my Lord, I have gone through the Task you were pleased to impose upon me; not indeed in that Critical manner, which I should have done, had I been writing to any other Person. In my Correspondence with your Lordship, I scribble whatever comes uppermost, well knowing that it will not undergo the Censure of any other Person, and that you will make favourable Allowance for all my Incorrectness. Had it been my Intention to write an Apology for his G—e, I might have drawn a Veil over many Things, which I have here placed in a strong Light; but such Dissimulation would have been inconsistent with that Friendship, which has so long subsisted between us. Without therefore trespassing further upon your Patience, I shall take the Liberty to subscribe myself,

My Lord,

Your's, &c.

Dublin, Jan. 23, 1760.

F I N I S.

